

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TO: Koethen Airfield

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

17 July 1952

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. The following aircraft and air activities were observed at Koethen airfield between 4 and 19 June 1952:

4 June. Night flying was observed over the field in a clear sky.

5 June. Night flying started at 9:30 p.m. The weather was clear. Single-engine planes were definitely observed in the air. A searchlight mounted on a truck in the center of the field was in operation. It was apparently operated by hand.

9 June. After 1:30 p.m., there was individual flying by swept-back jet fighters.

10 June. After 2 p.m., swept-back jet fighters were observed making individual flights.

11 June. There was intensive night flying by MiG-15s. The sky was cloudy.

18 June. There was again intensive night flying by swept-back jet fighters which had their position lights on.

19 June. At 2:45 p.m., 47 MiG-15s were counted at the field. About 20 MiG-15s, were parked in front of the two eastern hangars. Other MiG-15s observed at the field included 3 in front of the western hangar, 9 covered with tarpaulins at the side of this hangar; 10 on the runway; and an alert flight of 5,

At 3:25 p.m., about 49 MiG-15s and 2 Yak-11s were counted at the field. Thirteen MiG-15s were parked side-by-side in three groups of 3, 6 and 4 planes respectively at the take-off point. A Yak-11 and 17 MiG-15s were parked in front of hangars 1 and 2, about 3 MiG-15s were in front of the western hangar 3, and 9 MiG-15s, covered with tarpaulins were observed between hangars 2 and 3. One Yak-11 was near the officers billets.

Air Ev

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

2

25X1

2.

25X1

3. On 19 June, two AA gun emplacements, apparently consisting of 20-mm guns, were observed next to the target range. Between these emplacements and the southernmost of the two eastern hangars there were five AA gun emplacements having guns with a larger caliber than those of the other two emplacements next to the target range. About 20 BM and some NCOs with heavy field cable were observed on Koethen-Waasdorf road which led toward the field. They wore red-bordered black epaulets and artillery insignia. **

4. Officers ranking from senior lieutenant to major wore oak leaves on their caps, 1 to 1.5 cm from the rim of the cap. It appeared that there were two units at the field, one of which consisted of experienced pilots who displayed skill especially at high altitudes, while the other unit usually made practice flights, take-offs and landings, and local flights. *** 25X1

5.

6. On 9 June up to 5:30 p.m., there was intensive flying activity at the field. The following take-offs and landings were observed: 25X1

Time Aircraft Leave Dispersal Area	Arrival at Take-Off Point	Take-Offs	Plane
		10:42 a.m.	25X1
		10:45 a.m.	
10:53 a.m.	10:55 a.m.	10:56 a.m.	
11:03 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	11:08 a.m.	
11:06 a.m.	11:07 a.m.	11:08 a.m.	
		11:12 a.m.	
	11:13 a.m.	11:14 a.m.	
11:17 a.m.	11:19 a.m.	11:19 a.m.	
11:21 a.m.	11:22 a.m.	11:23 a.m.	two-seater?
11:26 a.m.	11:26 a.m.	11:27 a.m.	
11:28 a.m.	11:28 a.m.	11:29 a.m.	
11:29 a.m.	11:29 a.m.	-	
11:32 a.m.	11:32 a.m.	11:32 a.m.	two-seater
11:34 a.m.	11:34 a.m.	11:36 a.m.	"
11:43 a.m.	11:43 a.m.	11:43 a.m.	"
11:44 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	"
		12:13 p.m.	

LandingsPlane

10:46 a.m.	
10:49 a.m.	
11:13 a.m.	
11:17 a.m.	
11:18 a.m.	two-seater ?
11:24 a.m.	
11:24 a.m.	
11:25 a.m.	two-seater
11:31 a.m.	
11:39 a.m.	
11:41 a.m.	"
11:49 a.m.	"
11:50 a.m.	"
12:10 a.m.	

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

3

25X1

On 11 June between 0:45 and 1:51 a.m., night flying was practiced. The following take-off and landing times were observed:

Arrival at Take-Offs
Take-Off Point

	0:43 a.m.
0:44 a.m.	0:44 a.m.
0:46 a.m.	0:46 a.m.
0:51 a.m.	0:53 a.m.
0:56 a.m.	0:57 a.m.
	1:06 a.m.

Landings

0:42 a.m.
0:43 a.m.
0:50 a.m.
0:52 a.m.
1:03 a.m.
1:13 a.m.
1:23 a.m.
1:51 a.m.

25X1

25X1 * [] Comment. []
[]
[] It can be
assumed that most of the new aircraft were distributed to other fighter
units. [] new MiG-15s were
flown by all fighter regiments of the Southern Air Corps. 25X1

25X1 ** [] Comment. The 20-mm AA guns were previously reported. []
AA guns of a heavier caliber are reported for the first time. 25X1

25X1 25X1 *** [] Comment. These observations of a ground source are of special
value. They are the first confirmation of the report [] 25X1
[] observed two different units equipped
with MiG-15s at Koethen airfield. One of the two units is a fighter
regiment which was newly organized in the fall of 1951. The other unit
has not been identified. [] this 25X1
unit made only local flights. [] there 25X1
a connection between this unit and a new unidentified unit equipped with
MiG-15s at Zerbst airfield. There are indications that the two unidenti-
fied units consist of special crews for air defense missions (RMO).
The unit in Koethen is possibly the training unit while the unit in
Zerbst may be the first tactical unit of this type in the Soviet Zone
of Germany. [] 25X1
[]

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY